



MEDIA RELEASE

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

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SUBJECT: Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System Right-of-Way Public Notice

The Department of Natural Resources today released a Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision for the updated right-of-way lease application and a draft Right-of-Way Lease for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System (ANGTS). On June 1, 2004, TransCanada Alaska Company, LLC requested that the Department of Natural Resources resume processing the Right-of-Way Lease application for the proposed ANGTS. The proposed natural gas pipeline route generally follows the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System right-of-way to Delta Junction and then follows the Alaskan Highway to the Canadian border. While the proposed route crosses state, federal and private lands, only state lands are considered in this Right-of-Way Lease.

"This is an excellent example of the Administration doing everything it can to move the gas line forward in a timely fashion," said Governor Frank H. Murkowski. "It builds on the tremendous success attained by the Alaska Congressional Delegation on winning passage of key incentives for a natural gas pipeline."

"I'm very pleased that the staff and all of the participating resource agencies were able to work so effectively together on the analysis and with the applicants to produce the draft lease," said Tom Irwin, Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. "Everyone worked very hard to meet the timelines we set in June, and this project has remained on schedule."

The Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision and draft Right-of-Way Lease may be viewed on the Joint Pipeline Office website at www.jpo.doi.gov or hard copies may be viewed at libraries around the state and are available at cost upon request. Written comments on these documents will be accepted from October 15, 2004 until 5:00 p.m., December 15, 2004.

Comments may also be provided at public hearings scheduled in Barrow, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Delta Junction, Northway, and Tok for November and December.

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